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APR 12 1937

Regional Information Series

**NER Leaflet No. 102—NEW HAMPSHIRE**

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
AGRICULTURAL ADJUSTMENT ADMINISTRATION

1937 AGRICULTURAL CONSERVATION PROGRAM - - - - - NORTHEAST REGION

# 15 WAYS TO CONSERVE SOIL AND QUALIFY FOR PAYMENTS IN NEW HAMPSHIRE

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TO NEW HAMPSHIRE FARMERS:

By doing one or more of the 15 things listed above you can qualify for payment under the 1937 agricultural conservation program. The payments will cover part of the out-of-pocket cost of using the practices. This leaflet gives the rates of payment for each practice and tells just what to do to be eligible for a payment. The payments and the rates given are contingent upon Congress making available for 1937 the full amount of money authorized in the Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act.

A top limit will be established for the amount which may be earned by adopting soil-building practices on any one farm. "The Soil-Building Allowance" (p. 2) tells how to figure out what that allowance will be for your farm. "Applying for Payment" (p. 6) and "Other Points Affecting Payment" (p. 6) also contain information you will



need. Terms such as "cropland" and "open noncrop pasture" have definite meanings in this program. These and other terms are defined on page 7.

After you find out just how the program will help you carry out your plans for good farming, you will need to discuss these plans with your county agent or committeeman, to make sure that what you intend to do can be approved as good farming for your particular land.

Probably there is nothing unfamiliar in the list of soil-building practices. All of them are suited to conditions in New Hampshire and have been encouraged by the State Extension Service. Many successful farmers have been using them for years. Liming, for instance, is needed to make clover and alfalfa grow better. The soil on many farms in the State needs either phosphoric acid, or potash, or nitrogen, or combinations of the three, to supply the proper plant food. Turning under green-manure crops enriches the soil.

Some of the information in this leaflet about payments and the soil-building allowance does *not* apply to tobacco growers. Farmers who grow tobacco should read Northeast Region Bulletin 101-A—New Hampshire for details of the program as it affects them.

## THE SOIL-BUILDING ALLOWANCE

New Hampshire farmers who properly carry out one or more of the approved soil-building practices will be eligible for payments within the limits of their soil-building allowances. The soil-building allowance is the total amount which may be earned by adopting soil-building practices on a farm. A farmer may earn all or part of his allowance, depending on the approved practices he uses. But he cannot earn more than his allowance, no matter how many practices he uses.

The following items will be included in calculating a farm's soil-building allowance. Every farm not eligible to earn a diversion payment will have an allowance of at least \$20, even if the items listed below do not add up to that amount:

\$1 for every acre of cropland.

\$1 additional for each acre of commercial orchards cultivated on the farm on January 1, 1937.

\$1 additional for each acre of cropland on which *only one* crop of commercial vegetables was grown in 1936.

\$2 additional for each acre of cropland on which *two or more* crops of commercial vegetables were grown on the same acreage in 1936.

40 cents additional for each acre of fenced noncrop open pasture land in excess of one-half of the number of acres of cropland on the farm.

## SOIL-BUILDING PRACTICES

A farmer may adopt any one or more of the following practices which will help to improve his farm.

If a practice calls for the use of specific materials, such as limestone, a farmer may substitute equivalent amounts of any other approved material which serves the same purpose, and still qualify for payment.

### LIMING CROPLAND AND PASTURE

**Practice No. 1.**—RATE OF PAYMENT: In Area A, \$1 per 500 pounds; in Area B, \$1.25 per 500 pounds.

Applying 500 to 6,000 pounds of ground limestone or its equivalent, per acre, to crop or pasture land.

Area A includes Cheshire and Sullivan Counties, Area B includes all other counties in the State.

Ground limestone is limestone which will analyze 80 percent carbonates, 90 percent of which will pass through a 20-mesh sieve and 50 percent of which will pass through a 100-mesh sieve.

Five hundred pounds of ground limestone is the equivalent of 375 pounds of hydrated lime. Equivalent amounts of other approved material also may be substituted for ground limestone.

Lime applications for top-dressing pastures, hay lands, or orchards should not exceed 1 ton of ground limestone per acre. Larger amounts are often needed when seeding clover or alfalfa.

### USING PHOSPHORIC ACID, POTASH, OR NITROGEN WITH SOIL-CONSERVING CROPS

Applying phosphoric acid, potash, nitrogen, or combinations of these materials to established sod (in pastures, orchards, or hay lands) or in connection with the seeding of biennial or perennial legumes or green-manure crops.

**Practice No. 2.**—RATE OF PAYMENT, 4 cents per pound for available phosphoric acid.

The maximum application of available phosphoric acid for which payment will be made is 100 pounds per acre. When phosphoric acid is applied in connection with a seeding made in a nurse crop which is harvested for grain, the payment will be made only for amounts of phosphoric acid in excess of 32 pounds per acre. Payments also will be made for phosphoric acid when added to farm manures as a preservative and reinforcement in approved amounts if such farm manures are for use on established sod or in connection with the seeding of biennial or perennial legumes or green-manure crops.

**Practice No. 3.**—RATE OF PAYMENT, 3 cents per pound for available potash.

The maximum application of available potash for which payment will be made is 100 pounds per acre.

**Practice No. 4.**—RATE OF PAYMENT, 4 cents per pound for available nitrogen.

No payment will be made for any use of nitrogen in excess of 32 pounds per acre, or for nitrogen applied to hay land in excess of 24 pounds per acre. In most cases, nitrogen will be applied in combination with other fertilizer. Nitrogen may be applied alone to grass hay lands.

For top-dressing grass hay lands a mixed fertilizer having approximately a 1-1-1 ratio such as an 8-6-6, 7-6-6, or a 6-8-6 is recommended.

For top-dressing legumes a mixed fertilizer having 1-2-2 or 1-3-3 or even a 1-4-4 ratio is recommended, depending on the proportion of legumes to grasses in the stand; the greater the percentage of legumes, the wider this proportion should be.

### SEEDING CLOVER

**Practice No. 5.**—RATE OF PAYMENT, \$2 per acre.

Seeding adapted domestic or Canadian medium red clover, or any alsike clover, or mixtures containing at least 5 pounds per acre of such clover seed or its equivalent in other clover seed, on land prepared for



this seeding by the application of amounts of lime and fertilizer specified through the county committee, or on land without such application when soil tests or other evidence satisfactory to the committee indicate that the application is not needed.

The equivalent of 5 pounds of medium red clover seed is 2 pounds of White Dutch, 2 pounds of Ladino, or 8 pounds of sweet clover seed. White Dutch and Ladino clover should be used only for pasture.

#### SEEDING ALFALFA

**Practice No. 6.**—RATE OF PAYMENT, \$3 per acre.

Seeding adapted domestic or Canadian alfalfa, such as Grimm or variegated, or mixtures containing at least 5 pounds of such alfalfa seed per acre, on land prepared for this seeding by the application of amounts of lime and fertilizer specified through the county committee, or on land without such application when soil tests or other evidence satisfactory to the committee indicate that the application is not needed.

#### GROWING SMALL GRAINS OR ANNUAL GRASSES AS GREEN-MANURE CROPS

**Practice No. 7.**—RATE OF PAYMENT, \$1.50 per acre.

Plowing or disking under small grains, annual grasses, or mixtures of these which have attained at least 2 months' or 12 inches' growth.

#### GROWING LEGUMES AS GREEN-MANURE CROPS

**Practice No. 8.**—RATE OF PAYMENT, \$2.50 per acre.

Plowing or disking under biennial legumes or perennial legumes for which no seeding payment has been made under this or previous programs, and from which no crop has been harvested, and which have attained at least 2 months' or 12 inches' growth; or annual legumes which have attained such growth.

**Leaving crop on land.**—Leaving the entire crop on the land during the winter may be substituted for the plowing or disking under in practices no. 7 or no. 8 if the crop is one that normally is winter-killed.

#### MULCHING ORCHARDS

**Practice No. 9.**—RATE OF PAYMENT, \$2 per ton on an amount not more than 5 tons per acre.

Applying to orchards not less than 2 tons per acre of mulching material in addition to leaving in the orchard all materials produced therein during 1937 from grass, legumes, or green-manure or cover crops.

#### REMOVING UNPRODUCTIVE ORCHARD TREES AND MAINTAINING SOIL-CONSERVING CROPS

**Practice No. 10.**—RATE OF PAYMENT, \$10 per acre.

Removing all trees from unproductive orchard land if biennial or perennial legumes, or mixtures of these with grasses, are grown on the land so cleared, and if the normal acreage of other such soil-conserving crops on the farm is not reduced. If it is more practical, an equal increase of such crops on other land may be substituted for seeding soil-conserving crops on the cleared land. This practice applies only to farms in commercial fruit areas.

## PLANTING FOREST TREES

**Practice No. 11.**—RATE OF PAYMENT, \$10 per acre.

Planting not less than 500 transplanted forest trees of approved varieties or root-pruned seedlings of approved varieties at the rate of at least 1,000 trees per acre.

Species recommended for use on well-drained loams are:

Softwoods—White pine, red pine, white spruce, red spruce, northern white cedar, Balsam fir, hemlock.

Hardwoods—Red oak, white oak, white ash, sugar maple, popple, basswood, shagbark hickory, black locust.

Species recommended for use on areas of excessive moisture, generally characterized by growth of sedges, are:

Softwoods—Hemlock and European larch.

Hardwoods—White ash and black ash.

Species recommended for use on very light, sterile, sandy, or gravelly soils are:  
White pine and red pine.

## IMPROVING WOODLANDS

**Practice No. 12.**—RATE OF PAYMENT, \$3 per acre.

Improving the stand of forest trees by cutting weed trees or thinning or pruning other trees, to develop at least 100 potential timber trees of desirable species well distributed over each acre of woodland. Operators must obtain approval of the county committee before performing this practice.

## BUILDING 2-STRAND WOODLAND PASTURE FENCES

**Practice No. 13.**—RATE OF PAYMENT, 15 cents per rod.

Constructing fence of not less than two strands of barbed wire with posts or other suitable supports not more than 1 rod apart, to exclude livestock from farm woodland previously used for pasture.

## BUILDING 3-STRAND WOODLAND PASTURE FENCES

**Practice No. 14.**—RATE OF PAYMENT, 20 cents per rod.

Constructing fence of not less than three strands of barbed wire with posts or other suitable supports not more than 1 rod apart, to exclude livestock from farm woodland previously used for pasture.

## FOLLOWING A FARM PLAN

**Practice No. 15.**—RATE OF PAYMENT, \$10, plus 5 cents for each acre of land mapped, total payment for any farm to be not more than \$25.

Developing a comprehensive conservation program for the farm.

Requirements for payment for this practice include: (a) Preparing in conference with the proper extension or conservation representative, a plan for the uses and management of crop and pasture lands, and, in certain cases, woodlands; the plan to be submitted as an integral part of a general farm-management plan for the farm, covering a period of several years; (b) approval of the plan by the county committee as providing for satisfactory improvement in the economic use and conservation of the land; (c) submitting as a background for the plan a map of the farm prepared according to specifications prescribed by the State committee; and (d) making in 1937 such a start in carrying out the plan as is approved by the county committee as satisfactory evidence that the plan has been seriously adopted as a working program for the farm.



## APPLYING FOR PAYMENT

To be eligible to participate in the 1937 agricultural conservation program, a farmer must make out all necessary forms and supply other essential information. Forms and information shall be filed with the county committee within time limits established by the State committee with the approval of the Director of the Northeast Division of the Agricultural Adjustment Administration.

Payments will be made only upon application on the proper form filed with the county committee within the time fixed by the Secretary of Agriculture, supported by any necessary information regarding farming operations.

An application for payment may be made by any producer who is entitled to receive all or a share of the crops, or the proceeds of the crops, produced on the farm in 1937, or any producer who incurs all or any part of the expense of soil-building practices carried out on the farm.

## OTHER POINTS AFFECTING PAYMENT

**RATES OF PAYMENT.**—Rates of payment listed in this leaflet may be increased or decreased by not more than 10 percent, depending on how many farmers take part in the program.

**APPROVAL REQUIRED.**—Payment will be made only if a soil-building practice is in line with generally accepted standards of good farming. For that reason, every farmer who plans to carry out a soil-building practice should obtain prior approval from his county committee, to make sure that the practice is suitable to his farm and that the materials and methods he plans to use are up to approved standards.

**TIME LIMIT.**—Payments under the 1937 program will be made only for practices carried out before December 1, 1937.

**NO DUPLICATION OF PAYMENT.**—No payment will be made for a practice carried out on any acreage if labor, seed, or other material used in carrying out the practice is furnished free or paid for by a State or Federal agency.

**INCREASE IN ACREAGE OF GENERAL SOIL-DEPLETING CROPS.**—The Secretary of Agriculture reserves the right to make deductions from payments otherwise earned if in 1937 a farm has an acreage of general soil-depleting crops larger than the farm's normal acreage of such crops. The rate of deduction will be \$11.50 for each acre by which the 1937 acreage of general soil-depleting crops exceeds the general soil-depleting base acreage which can be established for the farm.

**ASSOCIATION EXPENSES.**—In computing payments, deductions will be made for county agricultural conservation association expenses.

**1937 OPERATIONS MUST BE CONSISTENT WITH PROGRAM.**—Payments may be withheld if any rotation, cropping system, or other practice is adopted in 1937 which tends to defeat the purpose of the program. No payment will be made for any practice unless the practice is generally considered to be a good farming practice for the locality.

**OTHER GOVERNMENT PROGRAMS.**—On any farm where a program is carried out in cooperation with the Soil Conservation Service or the



Resettlement Administration, payment will be made only for carrying out such soil-building practices as are approved for the farm by the county committee, prior to performance, in accordance with special instructions issued by the Secretary of Agriculture governing such cases.

**DIVISION OF PAYMENTS.**—On farms where two or more producers are concerned, the soil-building payment shall be divided among them in proportion to each producer's share of the total expense of carrying out the soil-building practices.

## MEMBERSHIP IN ASSOCIATION

Any person having an interest in the crops or proceeds of crops produced on any farm in his county in 1937 shall become a member of the County Agricultural Conservation Association whenever any form or information required in connection with the 1937 program is submitted for the farm in which he is interested, or whenever in 1937 he attends a meeting called for the purpose of electing committeemen. Any person shall cease to be a member of the association if in 1937 he does not file an application for payment within the time specified by the Secretary of Agriculture.

Each county association shall designate a group of persons to assist in the administration of the 1937 program in the county. That group will be known as the county agricultural conservation committee, or county committee.

## DEFINITIONS

**CROPLAND** is farm land which is tillable and on which at least one crop other than wild hay was harvested or planted for harvest between January 1, 1930, and January 1, 1937, and any other farm land devoted on January 1, 1937, to fruit orchards, vineyards, or cultivated bush fruits other than those abandoned.

**COMMERCIAL ORCHARDS** means tree fruits, cultivated nut trees, vineyards, or cultivated bush fruits on the farm on January 1, 1937, from which the principal part of the production is normally sold, including also young nonbearing orchards from which the principal part of the production will be sold in 1937 or later.

**COMMERCIAL VEGETABLES** means vegetables or truck crops from which the principal part of the production was sold off the farm in 1936. These include among others, potatoes, sweetpotatoes, melons, cantaloups, and strawberries, but exclude sweet corn for canning and peas for canning.

**OPEN NONCROP PASTURE** means fenced noncrop pasture land on which the predominant growth is forage suitable for dairy animals, and on which the number or grouping of any trees or shrubs is such that the land could not fairly be considered as woodland. Each 5 acres of such land must be capable of supporting at least one cow or one horse (or the equivalent in smaller animals) during the normal pasture season. Five sheep, five goats, two calves, or two colts are considered the equivalents of one cow or one horse.

Issued March 1937.

